

P a t e n t c l a i m s :

1. A method of entering text into an electronic device by means of a keypad
5 having a number of keys, each key representing a plurality of characters, the method comprising the step of:
 - entering characters by means of the keys representing said characters, wherein a character is selected among the plurality of characters represented by the corresponding key by pressing it a number of times
10 corresponding to the character,

characterized in that the method further comprises the steps of:

 - attaching to each key, in addition to the plurality of characters represented by that key, a further, ambiguous character representing any
15 one of the plurality of characters represented by the key;
 - activating a sequence of keys such that an ambiguous character sequence comprising at least one ambiguous character is generated;
 - generating possible non-ambiguous character sequences corresponding to said ambiguous character sequence;
 - comparing said possible character sequences with a vocabulary stored in a memory, said vocabulary comprising character sequences representing words occurring in a given language;
 - pre-selecting those of said possible character sequences that match character sequences stored in said vocabulary;
 - 25 • selecting one of said pre-selected character sequences; and
 - entering the selected character sequence into the device.
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of selecting the further, ambiguous character attached to a given key by pressing said given key a single time.
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3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of presenting, when a key has

been pressed at least one time, a list of the plurality of characters represented by the pressed key on a display.

4. A method according to claim 3, characterized in that
5 the method further comprises the step of presenting the further, ambiguous character attached to a given key as the first character in said list.
5. A method according to claim 3 or 4, characterized in that the method further comprises the step of presenting the further, ambiguous character attached to a given key as an asterisk in said list.
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6. An electronic device (1) having the possibility of entering text into the device, and comprising a keypad (3) with a number of keys, each key representing a plurality of characters, wherein a given character can be entered by
15 pressing the key representing said given character a number of times corresponding to the character,
characterized in that each key is arranged to represent, in addition to the plurality of characters represented by that key, a further, ambiguous character representing any one of the plurality of characters represented by that key; the device further comprising:
 - a memory (5), wherein a vocabulary (6) comprising character sequences representing words occurring in a given language is stored;
 - means (7) for generating possible non-ambiguous character sequences corresponding to an ambiguous character sequence comprising at least one ambiguous character and generated by a sequence of activated keys; and
 - means (8) for comparing said possible character sequences with said stored vocabulary (6) and pre-selecting possible character sequences matching character sequences stored in the vocabulary; and
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- 30 the device further being arranged to allow a user to select one of said pre-selected character sequences and enter the selected character sequence into the device.

7. An electronic communications device according to claim 6, characterized in that the device is further arranged to select the further, ambiguous character represented by a given key by pressing said given key a single time.

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8. An electronic communications device according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the device is further arranged to present, when a key has been pressed at least one time, a list of the plurality of characters represented by the pressed key on a display.

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9. An electronic communications device according to claim 8, characterized in that the device is further arranged to present the further, ambiguous character represented by a given key as the first character in said list.

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10. An electronic communications device according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the device is further arranged to present the further, ambiguous character represented by a given key as an asterisk in said list.

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